

ENVELOPE

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HEADER

O 072312Z JUN 93
FM DIA WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEALGX/SAFE
O 072331Z JUN 93
FM SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//OASD(PA):DPI//
TO AIG 960
BT

CONTROLS

SECTION 01 OF 02

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

SUBJ: PUBLIC AFFAIRS - PRESS GUIDANCE FOR IDENTIFICATION OF REMAINS
- JUN 93

1. THE REMAINS OF FOUR AMERICAN SERVICEMEN, PREVIOUSLY MISSING IN INDOCHINA, HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AND WILL BE RETURNED TO THEIR NEXT OF KIN.

2. THE FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE WILL BE MADE IN WASHINGTON (EST) TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 1993: (QUOTE) THE REMAINS OF FOUR AMERICAN SERVICEMEN, PREVIOUSLY LISTED AS MISSING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS THOSE OF CAPTAIN DAVID A. FREDERICK, USMC; FIRST LIEUTENANT CRAIG H. WATERMAN, USMC; LANCE CORPORAL EARNEST R. BYARS, USMC; AND LANCE CORPORAL ROBERT L. BISCAILUZ, USMC.

THE MARINES' REMAINS WERE REPATRIATED BY THE VIETNAMESE IN JULY 1992, AS A RESULT OF A JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY. THE FOUR MARINES WERE KILLED WHEN THE CH-46 HELICOPTER THEY WERE RIDING IN CRASHED DURING AN APPROACH TO A LANDING ZONE ELEVEN AND A HALF MILES NORTHWEST OF DONG HA, QUANG TRI PROVINCE, SOUTH VIETNAM ON JULY 30, 1967. ALL FOUR CREWMEMBERS WERE DEAD WHEN FOUND BY U.S. GROUND FORCES. RECOVERY OF THEIR REMAINS WAS PRECLUDED BECAUSE OF ENEMY PRESENCE IN THE AREA, BUT THEIR IDENTIFICATION TAGS WERE RECOVERED BY U.S. FORCES. CAPTAIN FREDERICK WAS BORN ON JUNE 22, 1942, AND HIS HOME OF RECORD IS COLUMBUS, OHIO.

FIRST-LIEUTENANT WATERMAN WAS BORN ON OCTOBER 14, 1943, AND HIS HOME OF RECORD IS REHOBOTH, MASSACHUSETTS.

LANCE CORPORAL BISCAILUZ WAS BORN ON JULY 24, 1946, AND HIS HOME OF RECORD IS MIDWAY CITY, CALIFORNIA.

LANCE CORPORAL BYARS WAS BORN ON APRIL 20, 1948, AND HIS HOME OF RECORD IS HOUSTON, TEXAS.

ALL FOUR MARINE'S REMAINS WILL DEPART HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, HAWAII, ON JUNE 8, 1993, AND TRAVEL TO TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA, FOR THE FINAL JOURNEY HOME.

THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WELCOMES AND APPRECIATES THE COOPERATION OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT THAT RESULTED IN ACCOUNTING FOR THESE AMERICANS. WE HOPE THAT SUCH COOPERATION WILL BEING INCREASED RESULTS IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

PAGE 0001 POW-MIA	
DATE RCD: 8 Jun 93	
ACTION OFFICER:	
DISTR	ACT/INFO
MR. SHEETZ	
MR. TROWBRIDGE	
AN	
PW-1	✓
PW-2	✓
PW-3	
PW-4	
OTHER	
Frederick, D.A.	
Waterman, C.H.	
Byars, E.R.	
Biscailuz, R.L.	

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ACHIEVING THE FULLEST POSSIBLE ACCOUNTING FOR MISSING SERVICE MEMBERS FROM THE VIETNAM WAR IS OF THE HIGHEST NATIONAL PRIORITY. (END QUOTE).

3. MEDIA INTEREST IN THE IDENTITY AND HOMETOWN OF THE IDENTIFIED SERVICEMAN IS ANTICIPATED.

4. DISCUSSION WITH THE MEDIA AND THE PUBLIC SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING KEY POINTS:

A. ALTHOUGH SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE IN THE PROCESS MORE RESULTS MUST BE ACHIEVED IN ACCOUNTING FOR AMERICAN POW/MIA'S FROM THE VIETNAM WAR, AND THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IS ACTIVELY WORKING TOWARD THAT GOAL.

B. ACCOUNTING FOR POW/MIA'S IS A HUMANITARIAN ISSUE AND IS OF THE HIGHEST NATIONAL PRIORITY TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

C. ADDRESS THE POSSIBILITY OF LIVING AMERICANS BEING HELD IN INDOCHINA AGAINST THEIR WILL USING THE OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POSITION STATED IN ANSWER 4 BELOW.

D. EMPHASIZE THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IS DEEPLY COMMITTED TO ACHIEVING THE FULLEST POSSIBLE ACCOUNTING FOR ALL MISSING AMERICANS.

E. AVOID SPECULATION ON THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM'S MOTIVATION OR INTENTIONS REGARDING THE POW/MIA ISSUE.

5. THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS MAY BE USED IN RESPONSE TO QUERY:

Q1: HOW MANY AMERICANS PREVIOUSLY MISSING FROM THE VIETNAM WAR HAVE BEEN ACCOUNTED FOR?

A1: A TOTAL OF 328 REMAINS (277 FROM VIETNAM, 48 FROM LAOS, TWO FROM THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, AND ONE FROM CAMBODIA) OF AMERICANS PREVIOUSLY MISSING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA ARE ACCOUNTED FOR.

Q2: HOW MANY AMERICANS ARE STILL UNACCOUNTED FOR FROM THE VIETNAM WAR?

A2: THERE ARE 2,255 AMERICANS STILL MISSING OR OTHERWISE UNACCOUNTED FOR IN INDOCHINA. OF THAT TOTAL, 1,651 WERE LOST IN VIETNAM, AND THE MAJORITY OF THE 516 STILL MISSING IN LAOS AND THE 80 UNACCOUNTED FOR IN CAMBODIA WERE LOST IN AREAS WHERE VIETNAMESE FORCES WERE OPERATING AT THE TIME OF LOSS. EIGHT WERE LOST IN PRC COASTAL WATERS.

Q3: WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME AMERICANS WERE ACCOUNTED FOR AS A RESULT OF U.S. POW/MIA ACTIVITIES?

A3: IN MAY 1993, THE REMAINS OF A U.S. SERVICEMAN WERE IDENTIFIED AND RETURNED TO HIS NEXT OF KIN. THOSE REMAINS WERE RECOVERED DURING A UNILATERAL RECOVERY BY THE VIETNAMESE IN FEBRUARY 1993. THE REMAINS OF SERGEANT RAPHAEL L. COLLAZO, US ARMY WERE REPATRIATED BY THE VIETNAMESE ON FEBRUARY 8, 1993.

Q4: WHAT IS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT POSITION ON THE POSSIBILITY THAT AMERICANS ARE STILL ALIVE AND BEING DETAINED AGAINST THEIR WILL IN INDOCHINA?

A4: U.S. INVESTIGATORS HAVE CONDUCTED OVER 200 INVESTIGATIONS OF REPORTED SIGHTINGS OF AMERICANS IN CAPTIVE SITUATIONS IN VIETNAM INCLUDING SOME IN PRISONS AND MILITARY FACILITIES. TO DATE, NONE OF THESE INVESTIGATIONS HAS RESULTED IN EVIDENCE THAT AN AMERICAN

POW IS BEING DETAINED IN VIETNAM. NONETHELESS, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE THUS FAR BEEN UNABLE TO PROVE THAT AMERICANS ARE STILL DETAINED AGAINST THEIR WILL, THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO US PRECLUDES RULING OUT THAT POSSIBILITY. ACTIONS TO INVESTIGATE LIVE, SIGHTING REPORTS RECEIVE, AND WILL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE, NECESSARY PRIORITY AND RESOURCES BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT AT LEAST SOME AMERICANS ARE STILL HELD CAPTIVE. SHOULD ANY REPORT PROVE TO BE TRUE, WE WILL TAKE DECISIVE ACTION TO ENSURE THE RETURN OF THOSE INVOLVED.

Q5: WHAT ABOUT THE INFORMATION FROM REFUGEES WHO REPORT THEY HAVE SEEN AMERICANS?

A5: WE PURSUE LEADS FROM ALL SOURCES ABOUT UNACCOUNTED FOR AMERICANS. SINCE THE FALL OF SAIGON IN 1975 AND AS OF MAY 1993, THE U.S. HAS RECEIVED NEARLY 16,200 REPORTS RELATED TO THE POW/MIA ISSUE, MOST OF THEM FROM INDOCHINESE REFUGEES. OF THE TOTAL REPORTED, 1,665 ARE FIRSTHAND LIVE, SIGHTING REPORTS. APPROXIMATELY 70 PERCENT OF THESE WERE VALID, AND WERE RESOLVED THROUGH CORRELATION WITH AMERICANS WHO WERE IN INDOCHINA BUT WHO HAVE SINCE RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES. ROUGHLY 25 PERCENT WERE DETERMINED TO BE FABRICATIONS BY THE SOURCE. THE REMAINING 24 UNRESOLVED REPORTS (OR APPROXIMATELY ONE PERCENT) CONSIST OF REPORTS OF INDIVIDUALS EITHER IN CAPTIVITY OR LIVING FREELY IN ONE OF THE INDOCHINESE COUNTRIES. THESE ARE THE REPORTS THAT CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THE HIGHEST PRIORITY OF INVESTIGATIVE EFFORT.

Q6: WHAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE RECENTLY IN POW/MIA EFFORTS?

A6: JOINT FIELD ACTIVITIES ARE RECENTLY CONCLUDED IN LAOS AND VIETNAM UNDER THE OPERATIONAL COMMAND OF THE JOINT TASK FORCE, FULL ACCOUNTING (JTF,FA). THE NEXT JOINT FIELD ACTIVITIES IN LAOS AND VIETNAM ARE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN THE END OF JUNE. JTF,FA IS CHARGED WITH THE MISSION OF ACCOUNTING AS FULLY AS POSSIBLE FOR AMERICANS STILL MISSING AS A RESULT OF THE WAR IN VIETNAM. WITH ASSISTANCE

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 002 *****/

FROM THE U.S. ARMY'S CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY, HAWAII (CILHI), JTF-FA CONDUCTS SURVEYS OF INCIDENT OF LOSS LOCATIONS, GRAVE AND CRASH SITE EXCAVATIONS AND REMAINS RECOVERY OPERATIONS. JTF,FA IS HEADQUARTERED AT CAMP H.H. SMITH, HAWAII, WITH DETACHMENTS LOCATED IN BANGKOK, HANOI, VIENTIANE, AND PHNOM PENH. JTF,FA INVESTIGATIVE SPECIALISTS AND FORENSIC EXPERTS FROM CILHI WORK WITH COUNTERPART OFFICIALS IN LAOS, CAMBODIA AND VIETNAM IN AN EFFORT TO ACCOUNT FOR MISSING AMERICANS.

IN APRIL OF 1993, AT THE REQUEST OF PRESIDENT CLINTON, GENERAL VESSEY RETURNED TO HANOI AND ACHIEVED VIETNAMESE AGREEMENT TO CONTINUE COOPERATION IN ALL MAJOR AREAS OF CONCERN. SPECIFICALLY, THE VIETNAMESE AGREED TO CONTINUE THE ARCHIVAL RESEARCH PROGRAM, IMPROVE TRILATERAL COOPERATION, TO CONTINUE TO PURSUE THEIR PUBLICIZED "NATIONWIDE" REMAINS AMNESTY PROGRAM IN AN ATTEMPT TO RETRIEVE REMAINS WHICH MAY BE IN THE HANDS OF PRIVATE CITIZENS, AND TO CONTINUE THE JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY PROGRAM AIMED AT RESOLUTION OF THE 2,255 AMERICANS STILL MISSING. IMPORTANTLY, DURING GENERAL VESSEY'S APRIL MEETING, THE VIETNAMESE AGREED TO COOPERATE WITH THE U.S. ON A NEW INITIATIVE AIMED AT RESOLUTION OF THE REMAINING 92

LAST KNOWN ALIVE DISCREPANCY CASES.

Q7: HAVE THE NEXT-OF-KIN OF THE IDENTIFIED AMERICAN SERVICEMEN BEEN NOTIFIED?

A7: YES.

Q8: WHAT WERE THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS OF THESE INDIVIDUALS?

A8: AT 9:55 A.M. ON JULY 30, 1967, FIRST LIEUTENANT WATERMAN, PILOT, CAPTAIN FREDERICK, COPILOT, LANCE CORPORAL BYARS, HELICOPTER CREW CHIEF, AND LANCE CORPORAL BISCATLIZ, AERIAL GUNNER, WERE ON APPROACH TO A LANDING ZONE ELEVEN AND A HALF MILES NORTHWEST OF DONG HA, QUANG TRI PROVINCE, SOUTH VIETNAM IN A U.S. MARINE CORPS CH-46 SEA KNIGHT HELICOPTER WHEN IT CRASHED IN AN INVERTED, NOSE DOWN POSITION. ALL THE CREWMEN WERE FOUND DEAD BY GROUND FORCES. RECOVERY OF THEIR REMAINS WAS PRECLUDED BECAUSE OF ENEMY PRESENCE IN THE AREA, BUT THEIR IDENTIFICATION TAGS WERE RECOVERED.

Q9: DO YOU ALLOW PHOTOGRAPHERS TO TAKE PHOTOS OF ANY REMAINS THAT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED?

A9: WE PLACE A HIGH DEGREE OF IMPORTANCE ON ENSURING THAT REMAINS ARE HANDLED WITH DIGNITY AND RESPECT. WE ALSO CONSIDER THE EMOTIONAL STRESS ENDURED BY THE FAMILIES OF THESE MISSING AMERICANS. FOR THESE REASONS, WE REFRAIN FROM DISPLAYING RECOVERED REMAINS AND DISCOURAGE PUBLIC AND MEDIA PHOTOGRAPHY.

Q10: WHAT IS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S POSITION REGARDING ATTEMPTS BY PRIVATE CITIZENS TO RESCUE POW/MIA'S OR OTHER SUCH PRIVATE INITIATIVES RELATED TO THE LIVE PRISONER ISSUE?

A10: THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IS ABSOLUTELY OPPOSED TO, AND ACTIVELY DISCOURAGES, SUCH ACTIVITIES. NOT ONLY MAY THEY BE IN VIOLATION OF HOST COUNTRY AND U.S. LAWS, BUT THEY SERIOUSLY IMPEDING OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE POW/MIA ISSUE.

Q11: DOES THE U.S. GOVERNMENT PAY FOR THE REMAINS OF MISSING SERVICEMEN?

A11: NO. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY IS TO ACTIVELY PURSUE AND WILLINGLY ACCEPT POW/MIA INFORMATION FROM ANY SOURCE. WE DO NOT VIEW DIRECT PAYMENT TO INDIVIDUALS FOR REMAINS OR INFORMATION AS HELPFUL TO PROMOTING GOVERNMENT, TO GOVERNMENT COOPERATION TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE. IN ADDITION, PAYMENT FOR REMAINS OR INFORMATION ENCOURAGES SCAVENGING AT CRASH AND GRAVE SITES BY PEOPLE LACKING THE TECHNICAL RECOVERY ABILITY TO ACCOUNT FOR THE MISSING. SIMILARLY, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT DOES NOT PROVIDE REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT AS A REWARD FOR INFORMATION OR REMAINS.

Q12: DO YOU EXPECT TO ACCOUNT FOR EVERY MISSING AMERICAN?

A12: THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT POW/MIA EFFORT IS TO ACHIEVE THE FULLEST POSSIBLE ACCOUNTING FOR ALL AMERICANS STILL LISTED AS MISSING OR OTHERWISE UNACCOUNTED FOR IN SOUTHEAST ASIA FROM THE VIETNAM ERA. ACCOUNTABILITY IS DETERMINED BY THE RETURN OF A LIVE AMERICAN, THE RECOVERY OF HIS REMAINS, OR CONVINCING INFORMATION OF WHY NEITHER IS POSSIBLE. WE RECOGNIZE THAT IN SOME CASES IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO RECOVER REMAINS OF AN INDIVIDUAL. IN THOSE CASES, WE SEEK TO DETERMINE THE FATE OF THE INDIVIDUAL.

6. QUESTIONS BEYOND THE SCOPE OF THIS GUIDANCE SHOULD BE REFERRED TO OASD(PA). POC FOR PLANS IS MAJ MICHAEL DORLE, USA, OR CAPTAIN STEVE MANUEL, USMC AT DSN 223,1075/COMH (703) 693 1075. POC FOR

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MEDIA IS MAJOR STEVE LITTLE, USMC, DSN 227-5131/COMM (703)
697-5131.

ADMIN

BT

#4432

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